IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated in the complete listing of claims listed below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the Claims

1.-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

receiving a request for content having associated therewith an information object identified by a uniform resource locator (URL) including a redirector address;

mapping, using a lookup table, the URL of the information object to a corresponding unicast address associated with an originating source for the information object;

using the unicast address as an anycast address so as to obtain the information object from a nearest information object repository identified by a redirector identified by the redirector address, wherein the nearest information object repository is selected according to specified performance metrics that comprise average delay from the nearest information object repository to a source of the request, average processing delay at the nearest information object repository, reliability of a path from the nearest information object repository, available bandwidth in said path, and loads on the nearest information object repository;

directing the request to the nearest information object repository;

determining if the information object repository has the information object;

instructing the nearest information object repository to obtain a copy of the information object, if the nearest information object repository does not store the information object;

monitoring an established connection between a destination of the request and the nearest information object repository servicing the request; and

adjusting the established connection if network conditions of the established connection degrade by replacing the nearest information object repository with a different information object repository.

16.-19. (Canceled).

20. (Previously Presented). The method of claim 15, wherein monitoring the established connection occurs constantly.

21. (Previously Presented). The method of claim 15, wherein monitoring the established connection occurs periodically.

22. (Previously Presented). The method of claim 15, wherein adjusting the established connection occurs constantly.

23. (Previously Presented). The method of claim 15, wherein adjusting the established connection occurs periodically.